

MINUTE of MEETING of the WEST LOTHIAN COMMUNITY SAFETY BOARD held within CONFERENCE ROOM 1, WEST LOTHIAN CIVIC CENTRE, LIVINGSTON, on TUESDAY, 13 DECEMBER, 2011.

Present - Councillors Peter Johnston (Chair), Willie Boyle, Ellen Glass and John McGinty; John Hill (Depute Chief Executive, West Lothian Council); Jim Forrest (Director, West Lothian CHCP); Chief Superintendent Jeanette McDiarmid and Inspector Graham Jones (Lothian and Borders Police); Graeme Jessop (Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service), substituting for Adrian Cottam; David Lockhart (Lothian & Borders Fire and Rescue Authority)

In Attendance - Ann Gee (Head of Housing, Construction and Building Services, West Lothian Council); Karen Cawte (Community Planning Manager, West Lothian Council)

Apologies - Graham Hope (Chief Executive, West Lothian Council), Gill Cottrell (Chief Nurse, NHS Lothian), Audrey Park (Governor, Addiewell Prison), Rob Strachan (Lothian and Borders Community Justice Authority), Adrian Cottam (Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service)

1. **MINUTE OF MEETING OF 27 SEPTEMBER 2011**

The Board approved the Minute of its meeting of 27 September 2011 as a correct record.

2. **COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE UPDATE**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) providing an update on Community Safety Strategic Performance. The report outlined Performance Indicators for anti-social behaviour, violence, fire safety, road safety and substance misuse.

The appendix to the report set out detailed information in relation to performance in these five areas and provided information on significant matters to note for each theme.

The report advised that the performance reports indicated that there were no specific concerns or risks identified, although the figures for Hate Crime had increased by 41%, which was being addressed by the Community Safety Unit analysts.

Decision

To note the updated Community Safety performance data and commentary for the year to date.

3. **COMMUNITY SAFETY COVALENT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) providing an update on the Community Safety Performance Indicators for the year to date.

The report outlined statistics in relation to those indicators for public protection, anti-social behaviour, fire and road safety, violence and substance misuse.

In the appendix to the report was a print-out from the Council's Covalent system illustrating these statistics for the performance indicators used by the Community Safety Unit, including trend analysis when available and commentary on the performance indicators.

The Board was informed that the process of identifying performance indicators and adding supporting data to Covalent was incomplete, but ongoing, with significant process being made with a view to completing that process by the end of the financial year.

The report advised that the data showed that the performance indicators were on or above targets; that there continued to be a decrease in anti-social behaviour related crimes and youth calls; that there had been an increase in hate crimes which was being analysed; that there continued to be a downward trend in fire raising; that road safety data showed consistency as far as the available data was concerned; and that there had been an increase in alcohol-related offences partly attributable to a new and more efficient way of reporting crimes.

It was noted that some of the indicators did not have a meaningful trend analysis or variance analysis because the indicators were new and information was only gradually being added in to Covalent for them.

### Decisions

- (1) To note the updated Covalent Community Safety Performance Data and commentary for the year to date.
- (2) To note the progress made in fully populating Covalent with relevant performance information.
- (3) To note that officers would investigate the apparent discrepancy in information for performance measures on Pages 10-12 of the appendix to the report (for September 2011) and advise Board members of the position.

## 4. **COMMUNITY SAFETY OUTCOMES**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) presenting the new Community Safety Partnership Outcomes for consideration for adoption to ensure that future partnership work was aligned under those outcomes. The proposed outcomes were included in the appendix to the report.

The report advised that the intention was to move away from a list of community safety "issues" to an outcome-based approach, showing the clear thread from the Community Safety Partnership to the National Objectives through the Single Outcome Agreement.

If approved, the new approach would demonstrate the Partnership's commitment to the Single Outcome Agreement, and would mean that the Partnership would be one of the few partnerships operating in this manner.

#### Decision

To approve the new Community Safety Outcomes.

### 5. **HATE CRIME TRAINING UPDATE – HMP ADDIEWELL**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) presented to raise awareness of developed practices across Community Safety Partners in relation to education on Hate Crime.

The report explained that a programme of Hate Crime Awareness training had been developed in 2010 for delivery to High School pupils, which had been beneficial and which had encouraged the reporting of such incidents. Thereafter the same package had been delivered to all staff within HMP Addiewell as part of Equality and Diversity Training Days. The report explained that the programme had raised awareness and alertness to such incidents within the prison and that there had been a positive reaction by both staff and prisoners.

Education had also been given to prisoners utilising the "Show Racism the Red Card" initiative. The report concluded by advising that the success of the training had been recognised as good practice, and was being considered for use by other Sodexo Justice Services facilities across the U.K.

#### Decisions

- (1) To note the training carried out and the partnership approach which had been adopted.
- (2) To agree that the training and partnership working should continue for future development.

### 6. **OPERATION CRASSUS – THEFT OF METALS/BOGUS WORKMEN**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) highlighting issues in relation to the theft of metals and crimes involving bogus workmen in West Lothian, and the police-led actions taken to tackle those problems. The report explained the basis of Operation Crassus, and the way that it had been implemented in November 2011 as a joint Divisional/Road Policing Branch Initiative.

The report provided statistics in relation to these crimes, the nature of the crimes and the way they were carried out, and those generally found to be involved in the commission of those crimes.

The report summarised the results of the operation, and concluded that the operation represented a positive response to tackling the problems identified, and that further consideration would be given to similar initiatives

on a regular basis in future.

Decision

To note the measures taken to reduce theft of metal crimes and to tackle bogus workmen crime through Operation Crassus.

7. **POLICE FESTIVE INITIATIVE – 30 NOVEMBER 2011 TO 2 JANUARY 2012**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) advising the Board of activity by the Police over the festive period. The report outlined the issues which had been identified, the focus of the initiative and its priorities, and the way in which resources had been assigned to tackle those priorities.

Decision

To note the activities taking place over the festive period.

8. **LOTHIAN AND BORDERS COMMUNITY JUSTICE AUTHORITY – UPDATED STRATEGIC BRIEFING**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) providing a strategic update on national policy issues impacting on community justice, and the local strategic initiatives being developed within Lothian and Borders. The report provided information in relation to those key strategic developments, which were the performance management of justice, partnership support for reducing re-offending, tackling persistent offenders, international learning, and dealing with women offenders.

The report concluded by advising that the Community Justice Authority would welcome feedback on the strategic development work.

Decision

To note the strategic update on the wider national policy which impacted on criminal justice and the local strategic initiatives being developed in the Lothian and Borders area.

9. **COMMUNITY SAFETY BOARD – PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR 2012**

The Board considered a report (which had been circulated) advising of the proposed meeting dates for 2012. The dates proposed were Tuesday, 27 March; Tuesday, 19 June; Tuesday 25 September; and Tuesday, 11 December, all at 9.00am.

Following discussion it was noted that a start time of 2.00pm may be more suitable for the community safety partners.

Decisions

- (1) To note the proposed meeting arrangements for 2012.

- (2) To agree that although the dates were suitable, the start time of 2.00pm for meetings would be more appropriate for the community safety partners.
- (3) To agree that officers should explore the possibility of changing the meeting times to 2.00pm on those proposed dates, which failing, to make other suitable meeting arrangements for the coming year.